AGENCY STRATEGIC PLAN

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS

2005 - 2009



ARKANSAS SENTENCING COMMISSION

FUNCTIONAL AREA: PUBLIC SAFETY

AGENCY STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVAL FORM

FOR THE FISCAL YEARS

2005 - 2009

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Agency Name	Arkansas Sentencing Commission				
Agency Mission Statement:					
	as Sentencing Commission is to establish sentencing standards the impact of practices, policies and existing laws on the state.				

AGENCY GOAL 1:

To establish sentencing standards which seek to create a balanced correctional system by providing a continuum of sanctions which increase in proportion to the seriousness of the offense and the extent of the offender's criminal history and which are neutral with respect to race, gender, social and economic status.

Agency Name		Arkansas Sentencing Commission				
Program		Arkansas Sentencing Commission Operations				
Program Authorizati	on	A.C.A. 16-90-801 et. seq.				
Program Definition: Program Funds-Center Code: 0328P01		The Arkansas Sentencing Commission is in a unique position to offer quality data analysis of criminal justice laws, policies and practices. The Sentencing Commission, representing the courtroom practitioners reviews the data obtained from the Department of Correction, the Department of Community Correction and the Administrative Office of the Courts from a neutral "criminal justice systems" viewpoint, i.e., the overall picture from the courtroom to the state agency. It is charged with presenting this information to the Governor, the legislature, the judicial council and the public. The				
AGENCY GOAL(S)	1	 Commission collects, monitors and analyzes this information to make recommendations concerning appropriate changes to sentencing laws. 				
Anticipated Funding Sources for the Program:		General Revenue				

GOAL 1:

To establish sentencing standards which help create a balanced correctional system by providing a continuum of sanctions and to monitor and assess the impact of practices, policies and existing laws on the correctional resources of the state.

OBJECTIVE 1: (Sub-Funds Center Codes to be assigned by DFA – Accounting)

To make appropriate revisions to the sentencing standards which are proportional to the seriousness of the offense of conviction and the extent of the offender's criminal history and develop educational programs in the use of the correctional resources of the state.

STRATEGY 1:

Gather and evaluate data relative to sentencing laws, policies and practices and their impact on correctional resources of the state (Arkansas Code 16-90-802).

STRATEGY 2:

Conduct training in the use of the correctional resources of the state.

STRATEGY 3:

Review and recommend to the legislature appropriate changes in sentencing laws, policies, and practices (Arkansas Code 16-90-802).

STRATEGY 4:

Follow Office of State Procurement rules and regulations.

STRATEGY 5:

Monitor budgetary expenditures in order to prevent overspending.

Agency Name	Arkansas Sentencing Commission	
Program	Arkansas Sentencing Commission Operations	

PERFORMANCE MEASURES: (Effort, Output, Outcome, and/or Efficiency)

DESCRIPTION	METHODS AND SOURCES USED OBTAINING DATA	FISCAL YEAR 2005	FISCAL YEAR 2006	FISCAL YEAR 2007	FISCAL YEAR 2008	FISCAL YEAR 2009
Review sentencing standards and make appropriate changes if deemed necessary by Commission members. Goal 1, Objective 1	Comments from criminal justice constituents and advocacy groups; review of case data received from Adm. Office of the Courts	Quarterly review	Quarterly review	Quarterly review	Quarterly review	Quarterly review
Conduct superior training on the correctional resources of the state	Conduct training seminars	At least 1 per quarter	At least 1 per qtr	At least 1 per qtr	At least 1 per qtr	At least 1 per qtr
Goal 1, Objective 1	Seminar evaluations	Good – high range	Good – high range	Good – high range	Good – high range	Good – high range
Answer constituent inquiries in a timely manner; Institute tracking program to keep track of all inquiries Goal 1, Objective 1	Tracking topics of inquiries and person needing the information (i.e. prosecutor, defense attorney, judge, private citizen)	1 – 2 day turnaround	1 –2 day turnaround			
Monitor budgetary expenditures and fiscal practices Goal 1, Objective 1	Legislative audits	<2 findings	<2 findings	0	0	0